

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) Apparatus for the purification of a substance from a solution, a suspension or a mixture of liquids by crystallization, comprising:

a. a first crystallizer (1c) comprising an input (1) for receiving a liquid comprising the substance and an output (4) for discharging a slurry of liquid and crystals,

b. a first separator (1s) connected to the output (4) of the first crystallizer (1c) having a product output (2), and having a residue output (5) connected to an input of a second crystallizer (2c),

c. a second separator (2s) having an input connected to an output (6) of the second crystallizer (2c) and having a crystal output (7) connected to an input of the first crystallizer (1c),

wherein crystals separated in the second separator (2s) are combined with a slurry stream (11) from the first crystallizer that bypasses the first separator and the second crystallizer before being input into the first crystallizer (1c).

20. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein at least one of the separators (1s, 2s) comprises a wash column.

21. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the second separator (2s) comprises a piston type wash column.

22. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 19, including a filter or a settling zone for the crystals in at least one of the crystallizers.

23. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the output of the second separator (2s) comprises a heating means (10).

24. (currently amended) Apparatus for the purification of a substance from a solution, a suspension or a mixture of liquids by crystallization, comprising:

a. a first crystallizer (1c) comprising an input (1) for receiving a liquid comprising the substance and an output (4) for discharging a slurry of liquid and crystals,

b. a first separator (1s) connected to the output (4) of the first crystallizer (1c) having a product output (2), and having a residue output (5) connected to an input of a second crystallizer (2c),

c. a second separator (2s) having an input connected to an output (6) of the second crystallizer (2c) and having a

crystal output (7) connected to an input of the first crystallizer (1c),

wherein crystals separated in the second separator (2s) are combined with part of said residue output (5) via a duct (13) that bypasses the second crystallizer before being input into the first crystallizer (1c).

25. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein at least one of the separators (1s, 2s) comprises a wash column.

26. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the second separator (2s) comprises a piston type wash column.

27. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 24, including a filter or a settling zone for the crystals in at least one of the crystallizers.

28. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the output of the second separator (2s) comprises a heating means (10).

29. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein crystals in the second separator (2s) are combined with at least part of the feed (1) via a duct (12) before being input into the first crystallizer (1c).